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Anniston, Alabama
August 21, 2017

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Regular Session in the Council Chamber in the City Hall of the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Monday, August 21, 2017, at approximately 5:29 o'clock p.m.

Chief Denham, Police Department, prayed the Invocation.

Chief Denham, Police Department, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Draper called the meeting to order. On call of the roll the following Council Members were found to be present: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; absent: none. A quorum was present and the meeting opened for the transaction of business.

Cory Salley, Interim City Manager, was present.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to amend the agenda to remove from the Consent Agenda a motion approving the addition of Crew Leader – Public Works and Street Superintendent – Public Works to the classification and compensation plan and to change the date of motion (a) 1 from Wednesday, September 6 to Tuesday September 5 and to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Joann Pope, 31 Diana Hills Road, addressed the Council concerning Public Works work orders completed per Ward, the fact that the Catalyst never received funds from the City, lawsuits filed by Council Members, economic development, special events, funding for the school system and the need for a community dialogue.

James Montgomery addressed the Council and stated it was wrong for people to tag Council Member Little as being disruptive. He stated that some people who are criticizing Council Member Little are secretly funding a lawsuit against him. He stated it is unfair for the Anniston Star to constantly criticize Council Member Little.

Glen Ray, 3514 Dale Hollow Road, addressed the Council and stated Council Member Little had been unfairly criticized. He stated they have to come together to do what is right for everyone. He stated the City court is robbing people. He stated they needed fairness and equal opportunity for their kids.

Erica Tolson, 409 South Allen Avenue, addressed the Council and stated it is important for their kids to get an education. She stated she was tired of racism.

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Harold Ray, 905 Benny Ray Street, addressed the Council and stated they needed to come together for their kids.

Larry Thomas, 900 Baltzell Gate Road, addressed the Council and stated that no one was taking responsibility. He stated it was the parent's responsibility to teach their children how to read and not the City. He stated no one wanted to pay more taxes. He stated it was easy to blame the City for their problems. He thanked the Council for their efforts and encouraged them to work through their problems.

Quinton Camac addressed the Council and stated the bike trails could generate money for the City that could be used in funding the schools and other issues.

Chris Abernathy, 4317 Cambridge Lane, addressed the Council and stated great things could be done in this city but that would require real leaders working together. He stated he was sorry Council Member Harris had been subjected to name calling and verbal abuse because she wanted to serve the City. He stated they knew she had nothing to hide and encouraged her to vote no on the Council Inquiry issue.

Sandra Parker, 515 West 12th Street, addressed the Council and stated the Anniston Police system was unfair. She stated that Jason Odom, City Prosecutor, only prosecuted who he wanted to. She stated recently her calls to the City had been ignored. She stated she was here on behalf of her daughter. She stated that Anniston Police Officers let someone who had beaten her daughter go without arresting him. She stated she filed police reports. She stated her daughter was accused of trespassing and the people with her had their cases dismissed. She stated she cannot get any help from the Police Department.

Mayor Draper announced that was the time for the public hearing regarding the 2017 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, declared the hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council regarding the 2017 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

Chief Denham, Police Department, addressed the Council regarding the 2017 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

Mayor Draper asked if anyone else wished to address the Council regarding the 2017 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

No one else addressed the Council regarding the 2017 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

Mayor Draper declared the public hearing regarding the 2017 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program closed.

Mayor Draper announced that was the time for the public hearing to hear objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (pools) at 900 Bellwood Avenue, declared the hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council concerning objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (pools) at said location.

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No one addressed the Council concerning objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (pools) at said location.

Mayor Draper declared the public hearing to hear objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (pools) at 900 Bellwood Avenue closed.

Mayor Draper announced that was the time for the public hearing to hear objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (vehicles) at the following locations: 0 George Street, 3825 George Street, 1307 Crawford Avenue, 801 Hilton Road, 812 Hilton Road, and 2129 Quintard Avenue; declared the hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council concerning objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (vehicles) at said locations.

No one addressed the Council concerning objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (vehicles) at said locations.

Mayor Draper declared the public hearing to hear objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (vehicles) at the following locations: 0 George Street, 3825 George Street, 1307 Crawford Avenue, 801 Hilton Road, 812 Hilton Road, and 2129 Quintard Avenue; closed.

Mayor Draper announced that was the time for the public hearing to hear objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (grass and debris) at the following locations: 312 Mulberry Avenue, 0 W. 10th Street, 1301 E. 11th Street, 2127 Oakmont, 0 Cloverdale, 1830 W. 16th Street, 2409 Noble Street, 2100 Christine Avenue, 1930 Leighton Avenue, 1614 Christine Avenue, 200 E. 27th Street, 1010 S. Leighton Avenue, 1306 Johnston Drive, 0 Altamont Road, 1107 Altamont Road, and 930 Jefferson Avenue; declared the hearing open and asked if anyone wished to address the Council concerning objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (grass and debris) at said locations.

No one addressed the Council concerning objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (grass and debris) at said locations.

Mayor Draper declared the public hearing to hear objections to the proposed abatement of identified nuisances (grass and debris) at the following locations: 312 Mulberry Avenue, 0 W. 10th Street, 1301 E. 11th Street, 2127 Oakmont, 0 Cloverdale, 1830 W. 16th Street, 2409 Noble Street, 2100 Christine Avenue, 1930 Leighton Avenue, 1614 Christine Avenue, 200 E. 27th Street, 1010 S. Leighton Avenue, 1306 Johnston Drive, 0 Altamont Road, 1107 Altamont Road, and 930 Jefferson Avenue; closed.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda.

Resolution authorizing reimbursements to city officials for expenses incurred while traveling away from the city. (17-R-80)

Resolution over-ruling objections to the abatement of identified nuisances. Group 2017-02 Pool (17-R-81)

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Resolution over-ruling objections to the abatement of identified nuisances. Group 2017-03 Vehicles (17-R-82)

Resolution over-ruling objections to the abatement of identified nuisances. Group 2017-06 Grass & Debris (17-R-83)

Resolution declaring a reported condition to be a public nuisance. Group 2017-02 Grass & Debris (17-R-84)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between Chief of Staff, 176th Theater Sustainment Command and the City of Anniston. (17-R-85)

Motion to approve a Special Events 240 Non-Profit Tax Exempt license application for Altrusa Club of Anniston Alabama Foundation Inc., d/b/a Girlfriend Gala 2017 at the Longleaf Botanical Gardens, 920 Museum Drive on September 28, 2017.

Motion to suspend the rule requiring the City Council to meet on the first Monday of September, 2017 and reschedule for Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

Cory Salley, Interim City Manager, introduced and read Ordinance Number 17-O-12 as follows:

(17-O-12, amending Ordinance 16-O-24, the Council Procedural Ordinance)

Mayor Draper made a motion for the unanimous consent of the Council for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 17-O-12 as introduced and read. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried. Unanimous consent of the Council having been given for the immediate consideration of Ordinance Number 17-O-12 as introduced and read, Council Member Reddick made a motion for the passage and adoption of Ordinance Number 17-O-12 as introduced and read. The motion was seconded by Council Member Little; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and Ordinance Number 17-O-12 was passed and adopted.

Cory Salley, Interim City Manager, introduced and read Resolution Number 17-R-86 as follows:

(17-R-86, authorizing the Mayor to execute an MOU between the Anniston Housing Authority and the City for the submission of the 2017 Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant)

Council Member Reddick made a motion for the passage and adoption of Resolution Number 17-R-86 as introduced and read. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris.

Council Member Reddick stated he supported this resolution but they also needed to support their schools. He stated other school systems receive grants, support from their city and support from businesses in the city. He stated that is what needs to happen with the Anniston Scholl system.

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Council Member Little stated he did not like the fact that the phrase “One City – One Vision” was in this MOU. He stated that south and west Anniston have not seen any benefit from the “One City – One Vision” plan. He stated that plan was just words and no action. He stated he had seen a lot of plans where the money does not get to where it needs to go. He stated he had not been involved with this MOU.

Council Member Harris stated this was an important grant and the City’s portion was only \$32,500.

On call of the roll on Council Member Reddick’s motion for the passage and adoption of Resolution Number 17-R-86 as introduced and read and Council Member Harris’ second to said motion the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried and Resolution Number 17-R-86 was passed and adopted.

Council Member Little made a motion to authorize an inquiry by the Council pursuant to Acts 1953-404 §9.03 (Code of Alabama §45-8A-23.262) into the funds given away in 2013 to include money for buildings on Noble Street. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick.

Council Member Reddick made a motion to table Council Member Little’s motion to authorize an inquiry by the Council pursuant to Acts 1953-404 §9.03 (Code of Alabama §45-8A-23.262) into the funds given away in 2013 to include money for buildings on Noble Street until after the passage of their budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member Little; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, and Draper; nays: Council Member Harris. The motion carried.

Council Member Jenkins made a motion to approve the addition of Crew Leader – Public Works and Street Superintendent – Public Works to the classification and compensation plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick.

Council Member Little asked if there was a current Street Superintendent.

Mr. Salley stated that position was not currently created. He stated Mr. Abernathy was serving as the Assistant Street Superintendent.

Council Member Little stated that the pay currently was \$61,900 and they had stated that the pay would go up to approximately \$70,000. He stated they had some serious financial problems in the City and they should look into them.

On call of the roll On Council Member Jenkins’ motion to approve the addition of Crew Leader – Public Works and Street Superintendent – Public Works to the classification and compensation plan and Council Member Reddick’s second to said motion the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper; nays: none. The motion carried.

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Council Member Harris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She stated that the motion for the Council Inquiry was targeted towards her. She stated if anyone had any evidence of any wrongdoing by her they should present it to the District Attorney or the Ethics Commission.

Council Member Little stated he felt the Council Inquiry would pass and move forward. He stated he had passed out cuts to the budget that would put \$800,000 to \$1,000,000 in the schools. He stated they needed to deal with the racial divide in this city and not let it continue to target their school kids.

Council Member Reddick stated he was disappointed that the City employees were getting involved in this fight. He stated they needed to support their schools. He stated it starts with the children. He asked that they not hate their kids.

Mayor Draper stated that baseless allegations of misconduct absolutely hurt the City's ability to attract business. He asked everyone to do their own investigations. He stated just because someone accuses someone else of misconduct does not mean that actual misconduct has occurred. He stated he did not believe misconduct has occurred but if it had it should be investigated by the proper authorities. He stated there would be a public hearing on the FY 2018 budget at the City Meeting Center on August 23, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the meeting at that time Mayor Draper made a motion the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick; and on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Harris and Draper; nays: Council Member Little. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 o'clock p.m.